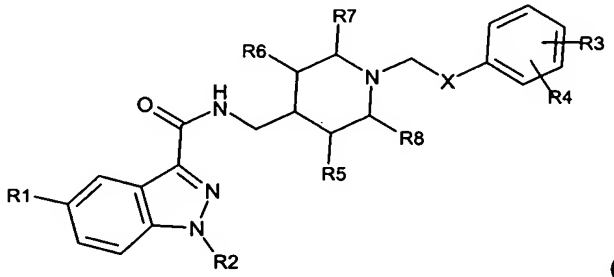
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An indazolamide of formula I:



(I)

wherein

X is an NHC(O) or C(O)NH group,

R1 is a hydrogen or halogen atom, or an aminocarbonyl, acetylamino, sulphonylmethyl, aminosulphonylmethyl, linear or branched C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy group,

R2 is a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched C_{1-6} alkyl group or an aryl(C_{1-3})alkyl group in which the abovementioned groups are optionally substituted with one or more substituents ~~chosen~~ selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of halogen atoms, C_{1-3} alkyl and C_{1-3} alkoxy,

R3 and R4, which may be identical or different, are a hydrogen or halogen atom, or an amino, nitro, hydroxyl, linear or branched C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, di(C_{1-3})alkylamino, acetylamino or O-(C_{1-3})alkylphenyl group, or R3 and R4, together, form a 5- to 7-membered ring in which one or two of the said members may be a hetero atom ~~chosen from~~ selected from the group consisting of N, S and O,

R5, R6, R7 and R8, which may be identical or different, are H or methyl;

and acid-addition salts thereof with pharmaceutically acceptable organic and mineral acids.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An indazolamide according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R1 is H, methyl or methoxy.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): An indazolamide according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R2 is H, methyl or isopropyl.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An indazolamide according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R3 is H, methyl, hydroxyl, amino or dimethylamino.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): An indazolamide according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to [[4]]~~ Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R4 is H, methyl or hydroxyl.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An indazolamide according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R5, R6, R7 and R8 are H.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An indazolamide according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 6~~ Claim 1, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein it is a salt of addition of a pharmaceutically acceptable acid ~~chosen from~~ selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of oxalic acid, maleic acid, succinic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, lactic acid, methanesulphonic acid, para-toluenesulphonic acid, hydrochloric acid, phosphoric acid and sulphuric acid.

Claim 8 (Original): N3-((1-(2-Oxo-2-(phenylamino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A [[H]]hydrochloride salt of the compound of ~~the preceding~~ Claim 8.

Claim 10 (Original): N3-((1-(2-Oxo-2-(phenylamino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A [[T]]tosylate salt of the compound of ~~the preceding~~ Claim 10.

Claim 12 (Original): N3-((1-(2-Oxo-2-(phenylamino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-benzyl-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A [[H]]hydrochloride salt of the compound of ~~the preceding~~ Claim 12.

Claim 14 (Original): N3-((1-(2-Oxo-2-((4-((phenylmethyl)oxy)phenyl)amino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 15 (Original): N3-((1-(2-((4-Hydroxyphenyl)amino)-2-oxoethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A [[H]]hydrochloride salt of the compound of ~~the preceding~~ Claim 15.

Claim 17 (Original): N3-((1-(2-Oxo-2-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 18 (Original): N3-((1-(2-Oxo-2-((4-aminophenyl)amino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A [[D]]dihydrochloride salt of the compound of ~~the preceding~~ Claim 18.

Claim 20 (Original): 5-Methyl-N3-((1-(2-oxo-2-(phenylamino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A [[H]]ydrochloride salt of the compound of ~~the preceding~~ Claim 20.

Claim 22 (Original): 5-Methyl-N3-((1-(2-oxo-2-(phenylamino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A [[H]]hydrochloride salt of the compound of ~~the preceding~~ Claim 22.

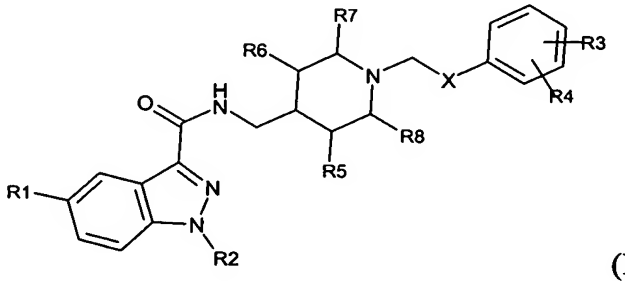
Claim 24 (Original): N3-((1-(2-Oxo-2-((4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)amino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A [[D]]dihydrochloride salt of the compound of ~~the preceding~~ Claim 24.

Claim 26 (Original): N3-((1-(2-Oxo-2-((2,6-dimethylphenyl)amino)ethyl)-4-piperidyl)methyl)-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide and pharmaceutically acceptable acid-addition salts thereof.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): An [[O]]oxalate salt of the compound of the preceding Claim 26.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing an indazolamide of formula I:



(I)

wherein

X is an NHC(O) or C(O)NH group,

R1 is a hydrogen or halogen atom, or an aminocarbonyl, acetylamino, sulphonylmethyl, aminosulphonylmethyl, linear or branched C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy group,

R2 is a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched C_{1-6} alkyl group or an aryl(C_{1-3})alkyl group in which the abovementioned groups are optionally substituted with one or more substituents ~~chosen~~ selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of halogen atoms, C_{1-3} alkyl and C_{1-3} alkoxy,

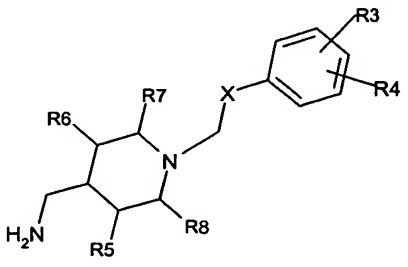
R3 and R4, which may be identical or different, are a hydrogen or halogen atom, or an amino, nitro, hydroxyl, linear or branched C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, di(C_{1-3})alkylamino, acetylamino or O-(C_{1-3})alkylphenyl group, or R3 and R4, together, form a 5- to 7-membered ring in which one or two of the said members may be a hetero atom ~~chosen from~~ selected from the group consisting of N, S and O,

R5, R6, R7 and R8, which may be identical or different, are H or methyl;

and acid-addition salts thereof with pharmaceutically acceptable organic and mineral acids,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein it comprises the following stages:

a) condensing an amine of formula (II)

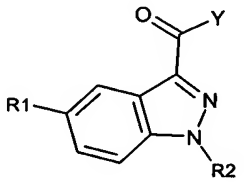


(II)

in which

X, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7 and R8 have the meanings given above,

with an indazolecarboxylic acid derivative of formula (IIIa)



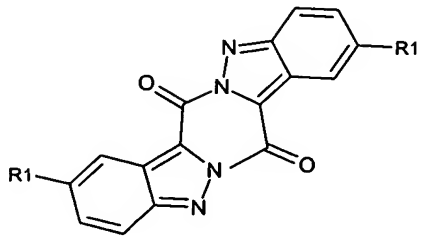
(IIIa)

in which

R1 and R2 have the meanings given above, and

Y is a chlorine or bromine atom, or a group OR or OC(O)R, in which R is an alkyl with a linear or branched chain ~~containing~~ comprising from 1 to 6 carbon atoms,

or of formula (IIIb)



(IIIb)

in which

R1 has the meanings given above,

to give the indazolamide of formula (I), and

b) optionally, forming an acid-addition salt of the indazolamide of formula (I) with a pharmaceutically acceptable organic or mineral acid.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process according to Claim 28, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein stage (a) is performed by reacting a compound of formula (II) with a compound of formula (IIIa) in which Y is chlorine or with a compound of formula (IIIb) in the presence of a suitable diluent at a temperature in the range between 0 and 140°C for a time of between 0.5 and 20 hours.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process according to Claim 29, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reaction temperature is in the range between 15 and 40°C.

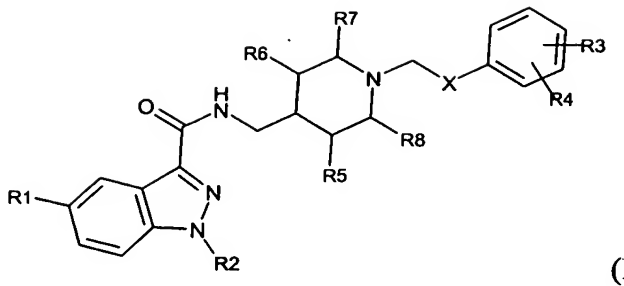
Claim 31 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process according to Claim 29, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reaction time ranges from 1 to 14 hours.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process according to ~~any one of Claims 28 to 31~~ claim 29, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the diluent is aprotic.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process according to Claim 32, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the diluent is an aprotic apolar diluent.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process according to ~~any one of Claims 28 to 33~~ claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein when Y is chlorine or bromine, the abovementioned stage a) is performed in the presence of an organic or mineral acid acceptor.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition containing an effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

X is an NHC(O) or C(O)NH group,

R1 is a hydrogen or halogen atom, or an aminocarbonyl, acetylamino, sulphonylmethyl, aminosulphonylmethyl, linear or branched C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy group,

R2 is a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched C_{1-6} alkyl group or an aryl(C_{1-3})alkyl group in which the abovementioned groups are optionally substituted with one or more substituents ~~chosen~~ selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of halogen atoms, C_{1-3} alkyl and C_{1-3} alkoxy,

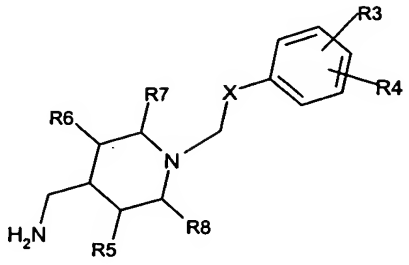
R3 and R4, which may be identical or different, are a hydrogen or halogen atom, or an amino, nitro, hydroxyl, linear or branched C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, di(C_{1-3})alkylamino, acetylamino or O-(C_{1-3})alkylphenyl group, or R3 and R4, together, form a 5- to 7-membered ring in which one or two of the said members may be a hetero atom ~~chosen from~~ selected from the group consisting of N, S and O,

R5, R6, R7 and R8, which may be identical or different, are H or methyl;

or of an acid-addition salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid, and

at least one pharmaceutically acceptable inert ingredient.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): An intermediate of formula (II)



(II)

wherein

X is an NHC(O) or C(O)NH group,

R3 and R4, which may be identical or different, are a hydrogen or halogen atom, or an amino, nitro, hydroxyl, linear or branched C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, di(C_{1-3})alkylamino, acetylamino or O-(C_{1-3})alkylphenyl group, or R3 and R4, together, form a 5- to 7-membered ring in which one or two of the said members may be a hetero atom ~~chosen from~~ selected from the group consisting of N, S and O,

R5, R6, R7 and R8, which may be identical or different, are H or methyl.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): An amine according to Claim 35, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R3 is H, methyl, hydroxyl, benzyloxy, nitro, amino or dimethylamino.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): An amine according to Claim 35, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R4 is H or methyl.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): An amine according to Claim 35, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R5, R6, R7 and R8 are H.